

Winding the Harper County Courthouse Clock...



**We'll assume you
had a key and took
the elevator to the
5th floor. That's the
easy part of the job.**

**Now you start up
the steps into the
Clock Tower.**



**You go up the first
flight of stairs to a
landing.**



The first flight of steps to the landing is the longest flight. Then it is a quick trip up to the Pendulum Room.



There isn't a lot to see in the Pendulum Room. The pendulum itself is enclosed in an unassuming white wooden box. You look past it to the steps up to the clockworks.



As you climb the last steps you find the clockworks are enclosed in their own Clock Room, a room in a room.



**Wondering what you
have gotten into,
you pry open the
door and get your
first glimpse of this
magnificent
machine.**



You first notice the long wooden pendulum rod sticks through the floor and is really the only piece you see moving.



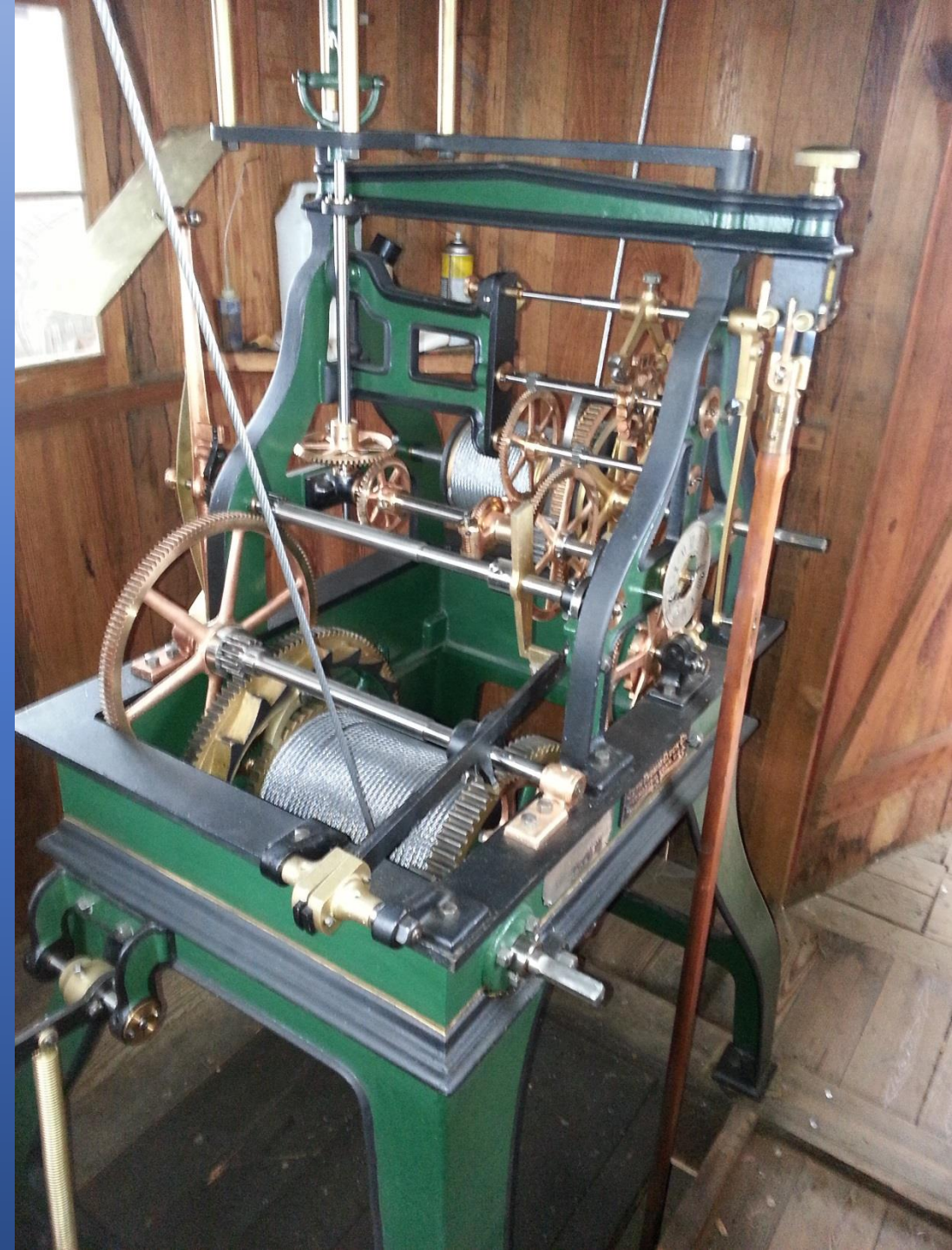
You see lots of gears and cables running through the roof of the room. The cables run to the weights that power the clock.



Using the large wood-handled crank, you wind the chime cable on the spool with over 120 turns of the handle.



The crank comes off and you move it to the other side of the pendulum rod to wind the clock itself. That usually only takes 20-30 turns, but they are tougher turns.



Finished winding, you get the chance to look over the clockworks a little.

You notice a plaque stating the clock was presented to the county in 1909 by the Citizens of Anthony.

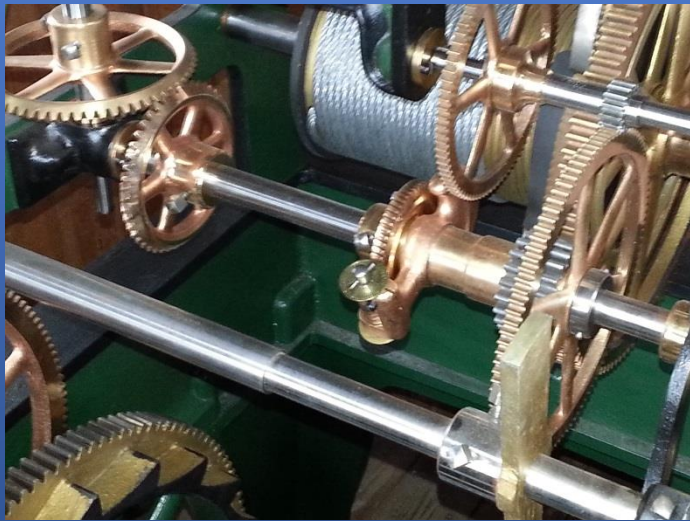


Next to that plaque is the manufacturer plate from the Seth Thomas Clock Company in Thomaston, Connecticut.

This plate tells you the clock was finished on June 9, 1909.



**You find the light
brass crank and how
it fits into the center
of the clock to set
the time.**



As you adjust the time, you can easily see what time it is on the side of the clock.

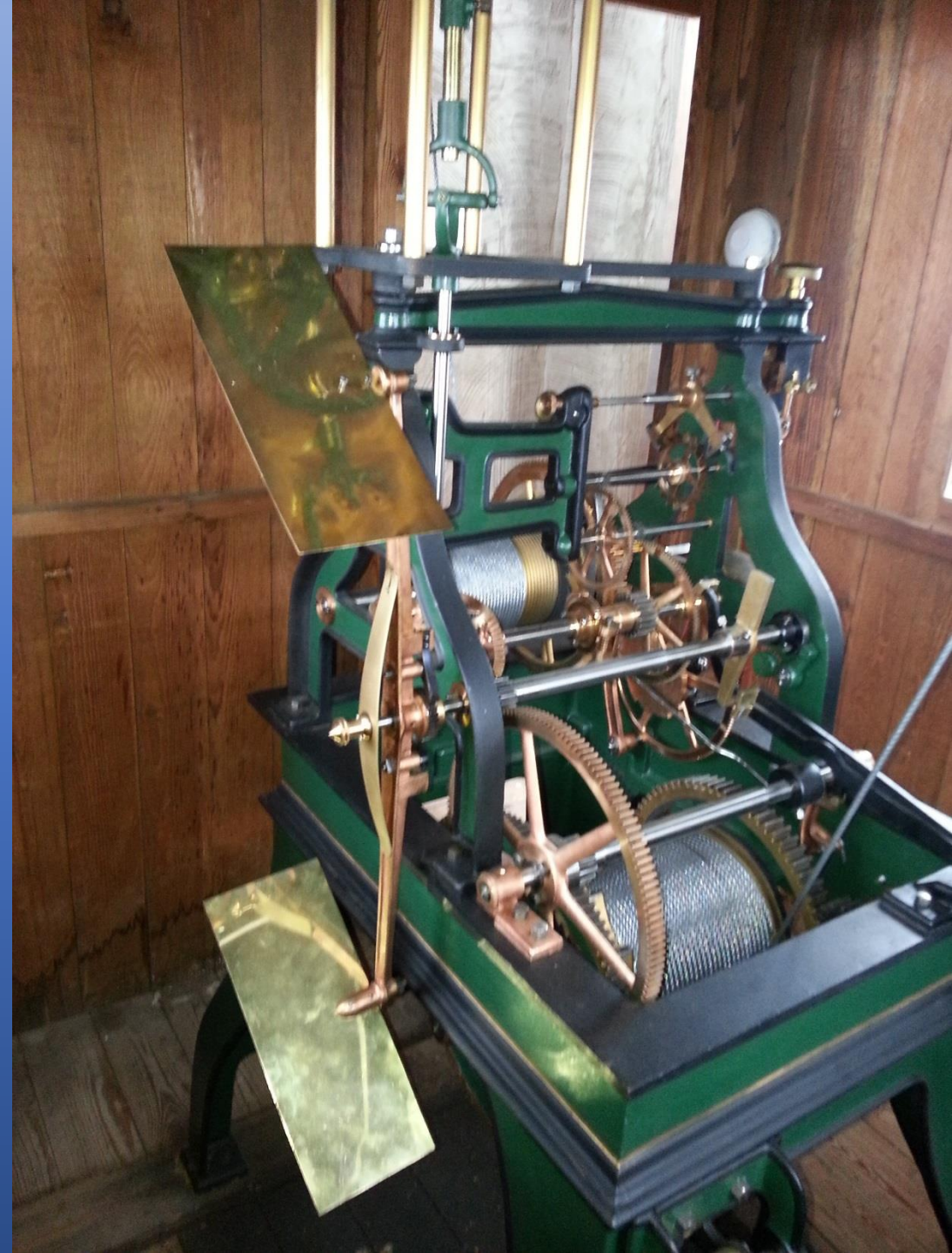
It turns very easily, especially considering it is driving those big clock faces on the outside of the tower.



If the clock is running a little fast or slow, you can adjust by loosening the four set screws and turning the big knob above the pendulum rod.



On the side away from the cranks is a wind catcher to keep the bell from ringing to quickly.



You can see the gears above the clockworks that run the four clock faces. Rods run outward through holes in the walls.



Leaving the clockworks room, you can see the inside of the faces being powered from within.



Be careful not to step into the access hole too quickly as we start down. It is just outside the door to the clockworks room.



**Pausing on the way
down in the
Pendulum Room,
you can enjoy a
good view through
these windows.**



The last (and first) flight of stairs is long, be careful as you go down to the attic storage area. Then you can take the elevator back to the occupied levels.



**It's a lot safer
and prettier
from outside.**

**But we hope
you enjoyed
this tour of
our historic
clock tower.**

